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IRC - Mr. Sidney A. Buford, III

October 6, 1958

P:EMC - Frederick T. Merrill

Request for Opinion on Desirability of Soviet Participation  
in Conference

P:EMC should like to have an intelligence evaluation of the proposed Soviet participation in the scientific conference on the Electrically Exploded Wire Phenomenon to be held in April 1959. The attached copies of the letter from the Air Force Cambridge Research Center give further details on the project.

**\*USAF Declass/Release Instructions On File\***

P:EMC:EGavrisheff:mr - 10/3/58

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AIR FORCE CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH CENTER  
Air Research and Development Command  
United States Air Force

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29 September 1958

Mr. Frederick Merrill  
Director, East-West Contacts Staff  
Department of State  
Annex No. 5  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Merrill:

This laboratory is conducting a scientific conference on the Electrically Exploded Wire Phenomenon, to be held in April of 1959. We are anxious to make it an international conference, and since the Russians are more active in this field than any other physicists in the world, we should like to invite one or two of the best known to our conference.

I have been told that we may contact your office for help and advice in making arrangements of this type. Data on the conference, as far as we know it to date, is as follows:

Sponsor: Air Force Cambridge Research Center  
Geophysics Research Directorate

Classification: Unclassified

Date: 2 - 3 April 1959

Place: Sessions of 2 April - Somerset Hotel, Boston, Mass.  
Sessions of 3 April - Hanscom Field, Bedford, Mass.

Expected Attendance: (This is a very difficult figure to estimate as no similar conference has ever been held)  
(Best guess) 100-300.

Program: Invited and contributed papers.

From this data can you give us information about the possibility of inviting Russian delegates? If it is possible, how must we proceed?

We very much appreciate any information and help you can give us.

Very truly yours,

/s/

WILLIAM S. SHAFER

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IRC - Mr. A. Sidney Buford

September 19, 1958

P:EWG - Frederick T. Merrill

Exchange of Radio-Television Specialists

Section II (5) of the agreement on exchanges between the United States and the Soviet Union provides for "an exchange of delegations of specialists in 1958 to study the production of radio and television programs, the techniques of sound recording, the equipment of radio and television studios, and the manufacture of films, recording tape, tape recorders, and records."

Plans are now under way for an American delegation to go to the Soviet Union for a visit of about three weeks beginning around October 20.

The IAC Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges (or its successor which, it is understood, is to be known as the United States Intelligence Board) is requested to consider the intelligence aspects of this exchange and to provide an intelligence evaluation, including the following points:

1. What Soviet installations are of particular interest, for possible inclusion in the itinerary of the American delegation;
2. What information should the American delegation be alert to obtain;
3. Considerations which should guide the American side in negotiations concerning the itinerary of the Soviet delegation when it comes to the United States and the information which can be made available to it;
4. If the question of exchange of recording apparatus and other equipment arises, what considerations should be taken into account, what equipment may be offered, and what equipment sought in return.

It will be appreciated if a prompt reply can be given to questions related to the itinerary of the American delegation, as this will be under discussion soon.

Tentative plans are to have the American delegation come to Washington for briefing on October 8. Interested agencies are invited to suggest topics to be covered and to nominate experts to participate.

P:EWG:SCLyon:Mr (9/19/58)

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